



Motion Picture Association  
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SENATE TAXATION  
EXHIBIT NO. 5  
DATE 3.9.09  
BILL NO. HB 163

## **MEMORANDUM OF SUPPORT**

### **MONTANA HOUSE BILL 163**

The Motion Picture Association of America, (MPAA) supports the provisions of House Bill 163 to extend the state's current film production tax credit program until January 1, 2015. The MPAA is the trade association representing the nation's leading producers and distributors of motion pictures and TV programs.\*

There has been a dramatic surge in recent years of states adding film and television production incentives to attract this very clean economically stimulating industry. More states this year are advancing film and television tax credit programs to compete for this industry's business, in fact thirty-eight states currently have film and television production incentives.

Given the positive economic impact of film and television production on the state's economy it is important to maintain the stimulus for this industry to have a chance to continue to grow. The state's impetus for enacting this measure was to provide an opportunity to expand opportunities for local employment and attract investment, and that is working.

Studies have shown there is a positive return on investment on credits provided to this industry, which is a difficult claim for many other economic development programs. The economic activity generated by these credits is strong. This program has now gotten off the ground and should continue to allow the film and television industry to continue to serve as an important catalyst for economic growth well into Montana's future.

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\* Paramount Pictures Corporation, Sony Pictures Entertainment Inc., Twentieth Century Fox Film Corporation, Universal City Studios LLLP, Walt Disney Studios Motion Pictures, Warner Bros. Entertainment Inc., and CBS Corporation as an affiliate member.